

REMARKS

Initially, applicant would like to thank Examiner Fernstrom for granting an interview and for his time spent in the interview.

Claims 1-22 and 24 are pending in the application. Claim 23 has been canceled. Applicant would also like to thank Examiner Fernstrom for indicating allowable subject matter in claims 14-23. As set forth at the interview, in reliance thereon, independent claim 9 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 23.

Claims 1-8 and 14-22 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because of the term "light-penetrating". The term "light-penetrating" has been changed to "light-transmissive" as suggested in the Official Action to address this rejection.

Claims 1-8 and 14-22 are also rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because the term "orthogonally" allegedly does not particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as his invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The position set forth in the Official Action is that the term "orthogonal" is defined as "intersecting at right angles" and that it is not clear how the display units intersect at right angles since no axes are recited.

Applicant's representative pointed out at the interview that a definition of "orthogonal" as used by Wordnet 2.0 defines orthogonal as "having a set of mutually perpendicular axes". It was noted that claim 23 includes the language "perpendicular to an axis of rotation" and that applicant understood the use of the word "orthogonal" in claim 1 included the axes.

As agreed upon at the interview, in order to make applicant's intent clear, claim 1 is amended to recite that the rotational axes are orthogonal. As noted in the interview summary, Examiner Fernstrom indicated that such amendment would be entered.

Accordingly, based on the above, the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph is believed overcome.

Claims 1-7 are rejected as anticipated by INOUE 5,395,111. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended to clarify the term "orthogonal" so as to include the axes of rotation of the sub display unit and the axes of the main display units.

As agreed at the interview, the display units of INOUE are co-axial, not orthogonal. As the reference does not disclose that which is recited, the anticipation rejection is not viable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection as to claim 1 are respectfully requested. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and further define the invention and are also believed patentable over INOUE.

Claims 9-13 and 24 are rejected as anticipated by MALAVAZOS et al. 6,105,962. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 9 is amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 23 and thus claim 9 is believed allowable. Claims 10-13 and 24 depend from claim 9 and further define the invention and are also believed allowable.

Claim 8 is rejected as unpatentable over INOUE '111 in view of INOUE 5,752,881. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

INOUE '881 is cited for the teaching of a sub display unit being a liquid crystal display unit. However, neither INOUE '881 nor INOUE '111 teaches or suggests a sub display unit located behind the main display units so that the axis of rotation of the sub display unit is orthogonal to the axes of rotation of the main display units as recited in claim 1. Since claim 8 depends from claim 1 and further defines the invention, the proposed combination of references would not render obvious claim 8.

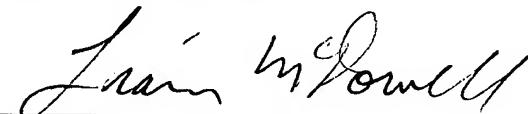
In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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